

**The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University**  
**Ohio State Engineer**

**Title:** Campus Notes

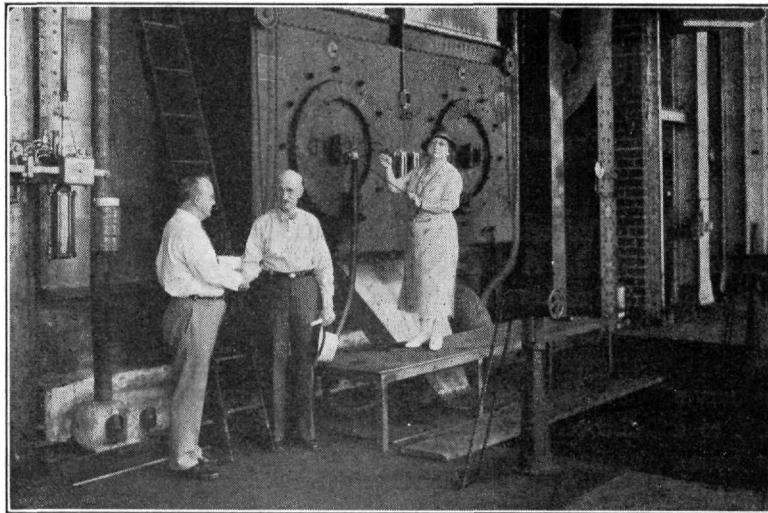
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MISS COCKINS CHRISTENS BOILER—Cut Courtesy Alumni Monthly

# Campus ▼ Notes

## More Power for the Campus

ANOTHER giant turbo-generator has been added to the power generating equipment of the University. The new generator has been installed on the main floor of the power house and is expected to be in service within a few weeks. This 4000 kilowatt turbo-generator, the product of General Electric, is one of the largest in the city. It is intended to carry the greater part of the present load while the two Allis Chalmers 1500 kilowatt generators are to be held as reserve and overloading relief. The installation last winter of an 8000 hp. boiler capable of delivering 125,000 pounds of steam per hour, was in anticipation of the arrival of the new generator.

This new equipment will greatly increase the capacity of the power station which is an excellent example of modern methods in the generation of electricity by means of steam power. Coal, used as fuel in the plant, is mechanically dumped from the open cars into an immense storage bin from which it is carried by crane to the rotary crusher where it is pulverized and thence by bucket type conveyor to the V-type overhead bunker. A conveyor belt distributes the coal throughout the length of the bunker, permitting it to be directed into any one of the eight hoppers which automatically feed the battery of four, 400 hp., three, 500 hp., and one 1000 hp. boilers. The entire procedure from car to boiler is entirely automatic and mechanical.

Another interesting feature of the plant is the efficiency with which the steam is used. It first passes through the high pressure turbines, then to the low pressure equipment, and from there it is issued to the heating system through a series of tubes, and heats the water for hot water heating in numerous buildings on the campus. Its journey not yet completed, the steam is then sent through the low pressure steam heating system still used in a few of the older buildings. Finally, it is exhausted in the condensing tank, used to create the exhaust vacuum on the turbine, and then once

again is fed into the boiler to be reheated and sent forth on another dizzy flight.

All in all, we have here at the University a very efficient and modern power plant supplying the 33,000 kilowatts used daily in the laboratories, shops, lecture rooms, classrooms, and dormitories on the campus. The fact that for the past three years the power plant has been supplying the campus with light, heat, and power without interruption is sufficient evidence of its dependability.

## Engineers Score Heavily in Campus Elections

By capturing the presidency of two classes and a treasurership, the College of Engineering cut an important figure in the recent campus election of class officers. Dick Smith, Engr. 4, and Dane Justice, Engr. 4, popular architectural students were chosen to be president and treasurer respectively of the senior class. Clyde Phillips, Engr. 1, completely overwhelmed his opponents to win the office of President of the class of '36. These men, as well as the organizations which backed them, are to be congratulated for their fine political run and their election. We hope, and feel sure, that they will administer the duties of their respective offices in a manner compatible with the best Ohio State and Engineering College traditions.

## A. I. E. E. is Host to Robot

WILLIE VOCALITE, the mechanical man, and his guardian, C. L. Kirkpatrick from the Westinghouse Electric Company, made their second appearance at Ohio State in University Hall on Thursday evening, November seventeenth. This visit was made possible by the Student Branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The robot is the property of the Westing-

(Continued on Page 11)

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### **Campus Notes**

*(Continued from Page 6)*

house Electric Company and was developed in their laboratories. The mechanical man represents over six years of research and an investment of about \$22,000.

Mr. Kirkpatrick opened the demonstration by explaining the operation of the robot and its general working principles. The principle of operation consisted of the conversion of sound waves, spoken into a telephone transmitter, into light waves which were cast upon photo-electric cells which in turn set relays into operation which did the required work by operating the proper mechanisms within the robot. Commands were given to the robot over an ordinary telephone by means of slowly spoken words and the action of the uncanny man-made wonder depended upon the number of syllables spoken.

Although only fourteen months old, Willie stands over six feet in height and weighs over two hundred and fifty pounds. His accomplishments now include standing up, sitting down, making a speech, smoking a cigarette, raising a flag and firing a gun at the same time, operating a vacuum cleaner, and saluting and opening a refrigerator door, all of which he performed at the demonstrations.

Mr. Kirkpatrick predicted a great future for Willie and his offspring, saying that in the days to come it would be an ordinary occurrence to call one's own home, have a robot answer the phone and perform any task such as turning off the radio, sweeping the rugs, and so on. The robot's guardian cited the present use of three of Willie's brothers at a Washington, D. C., reservoir where they are sent down into the water, called over the telephone, and answer in good English the correct depth of the water.

For the benefit of the non-technical members of the audience, this very educational and entertaining evening was brought to a close by a series of colorful and impressive tricks which were performed with high frequency current apparatus.

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### **Tau Beta Pi Pledges**

Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity and sometimes called the "Phi Beta Kappa of engineering," recently pledged 23 seniors and three juniors. Selections to Tau Beta Pi are made from the senior and junior engineering classes on a basis of scholarship and character. To be eligible, seniors must be in the upper quarter of their class and juniors in the upper eighth.

The pledge list includes: George E. Arnold, Robert E. Blosser, Joseph M. Cannon, Edward Clear, Henry S. Curtis, Edward L. Dryer, John E. Millikan, George E. Eckert, Robert E. Elliott, George E. Fromm, Paul E. Gerdes, William Halligan, Charles A. Hempstead, Charles Hiss, Roger Hull, Russell K. Johnston, Verlin

*(Continued on Page 17)*

### Campus Notes

(Continued from Page 11)

Krill, Arthur E. Newlon, Robert S. Peoples, Leonard I. Schiff, Franklin F. Snyder, David M. Wilkinson.

The junior pledges are: Harold D. Kaufman, Edwin M. Sherwood, and Robert A. Young. William A. Fowler is president of the organization.

## Electricals in Graduate School Double Last Year's Enrollment

This year's enrollment in the Graduate School of the department of electrical engineering is double that of last year. For the past two years the department of electrical engineering, headed by Professor Drees, has been encouraging superior students to take graduate work after completing their regular engineering work.

This quarter there are 24 students in the University Graduate School taking work in the electrical engineering department. Besides Ohio State graduates, the membership of this group is taken from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Purdue University, the University of Michigan, the University of Washington, Washington University, Georgia Tech, Rose Polytech, the University of Maine, and Bucknell University.

## Eta Kappa Nu Announces Pledges

Following a very delightful banquet, held Friday, November 15, at the Village, two seniors and three juniors were pledged to Eta Kappa Nu. The new pledges are: Merrill L. Emmens, E.E. 4; James Lovelace, E.E. 4; William J. Lucarell, E.E. 3; Richard R. Kilgore, E.E. 3; and Robert A. Young, E.E. 3. Initiation will be held in the early part of December.

## S. S. I. E. Has Good Beginning

The Society of Industrial Engineers, headed by President Ralph Hayne, is getting off to a great start this year. The present membership numbers around seventy-five, but the Society is still on the lookout for anyone who is interested in Industrial Engineering. The Membership fee is only one dollar.

Two meetings have been held this quarter, one of which centered around an illustrated lecture on the new Ford V-8 by the superintendent of the Columbus Ford Agency. The Society plans to put on a regular program of monthly dinner meetings for all members, together with a talk on some engineering subject by men well known in engineering circles, either from town or, if possible, from out of town. The purpose of these meetings is primarily to establish a real acquaintance and fellowship between the upper and lower classes.

In addition to President Hayne, the officers are: Henry Snyder, Vice President; Bob Larson, Secretary; H. L. Newell, Treasurer; and Paul Borches, Intramural Director. Yes, they have organized several teams for intramural competition.



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## Campus Notes

(Continued from Page 17)

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board of Romophos, sophomore men's honorary society, the following engineering students were appointed to serve on the various committees: Kenneth R. Lower, Committee on Initiation; Gilbert T. Ray, Committee on Campus Projects; Freeman A. Gehres, Chairman of the Committee on Investigations; John E. Garmhausen, Committee on Entertainment. James C. Joyce, Engr. 2, is President of the Executive Board.

To be eligible for membership in Romophos, one must have engaged in at least two activities during his freshman year, and must have a point average of 2.0 or better. Headed by a competent and hard working executive committee, this newest campus organization has put over several worth while and commendable projects. It fills a definite need in the activities structure of our University and will grow in power and influence in proportion to the services that it renders and the needs that it fills.

Mr. Robert Price, that very efficient English 410 instructor, types by the Biblical Method—"Seek, and ye shall find."

## A. S. M. E.

A. E. Gibson, representative of the Wellman Engineering Co., gave a well attended lecture before the University branch of the A. S. M. E. at their last meeting. Members of the faculty and students from the Electrical and Industrial Engineering departments were invited to hear his talk on "The Application of Welding to Heavy Metal Equipment."

Mr. Gibson is a graduate of the Ohio State University, having obtained his M.E. degree in 1909. For the past few years he has been connected with the Wellman concern in Cleveland, and it was with them that he participated in the construction of the gigantic mooring mast built at Lakehurst, New Jersey, for the Airship Akron. This structure is one of the largest pieces of welding work that has been done in this country, and Mr. Gibson spoke with the authority of experience of the problems and their solution encountered in this work. Other welding problems were discussed and some of the recent advances made in this rapidly widening field were described. The rapid advances in the art and the innumerable uses to which welding can be substituted in lieu of the more common use of casting and bolting and the great increase in general work efficiency thus effected were also brought out by the speaker.

This meeting, held in Room 100, Chemistry Building, is one of the series of interesting lectures to be promoted this winter by the A. S. M. E. Notices of future lectures will be posted on the M. E. bulletin board and will appear in future issues. Everyone interested is invited to attend.